OCT 2 7 2003 WE OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NISHIUCHI**, et al. Group Art Unit: 1775

Serial No.: 10/615,381 Examiner: Arden B. Sperty

Filed: July 9, 2003

FOR: SURFACE TREATING PROCESS, SURFACE TREATING

APPARATUS, VAPOR-DEPOSITING MATERIAL, AND RARE

EARTH METAL-BASED PERMANENT MAGNET WITH SURFACE TREATED

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 27, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of a Notice of Reasons for Rejection issued in the corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-117771.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the

documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

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WGK/nrp Atty. Docket No. **000593B** Suite 1000 1725 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 659-2930

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Notice of Reasons for Rejection issued in Japanese Patent Appln. No. 2000-227772

PTO-1449 References (3) OT 2 7 2003

INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
CITATION
PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No. 000593B Serial No. 10/615,381

Applicant(s): NISHIUCHI, et al.

Filing Date: July 9, 2003 Group Art Unit: 1775

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
 AF	60-243843	12/03/85	Japan	Abstract only
 AG	60-92466	5/24/85	Japan	Abstract only
 AH	6-158285	6/07/94	Japan	Abstract only
 AI				
 AJ				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

	AK		
	AL		
Examiner		Date Considered	